

## Ocean and Great Lakes Jobs Snapshot

# Los Angeles County, California

### Ocean and Great Lakes Jobs = A Healthy Economy

In 2008, Ocean-related businesses provided 9% of the total jobs in Los Angeles County. This represents a 9% increase in Ocean jobs since 2001. Nationwide, ocean and Great Lakes jobs represent double the number of jobs supported by agriculture.

Los Angeles County ocean jobs account for

**376,894**

employees

**\$10b**

in wages

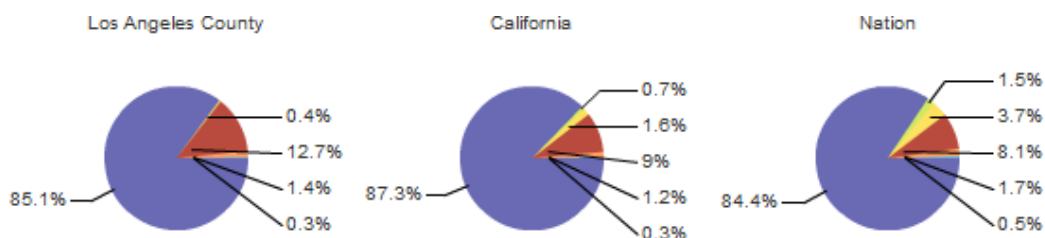
**\$20b**

in goods & services

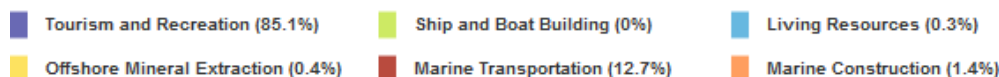
in 2008

### Ocean Jobs by Sector

Comparing Los Angeles County's Ocean sectors to the state and nation shows how local concerns may or may not coincide with state and national priorities.

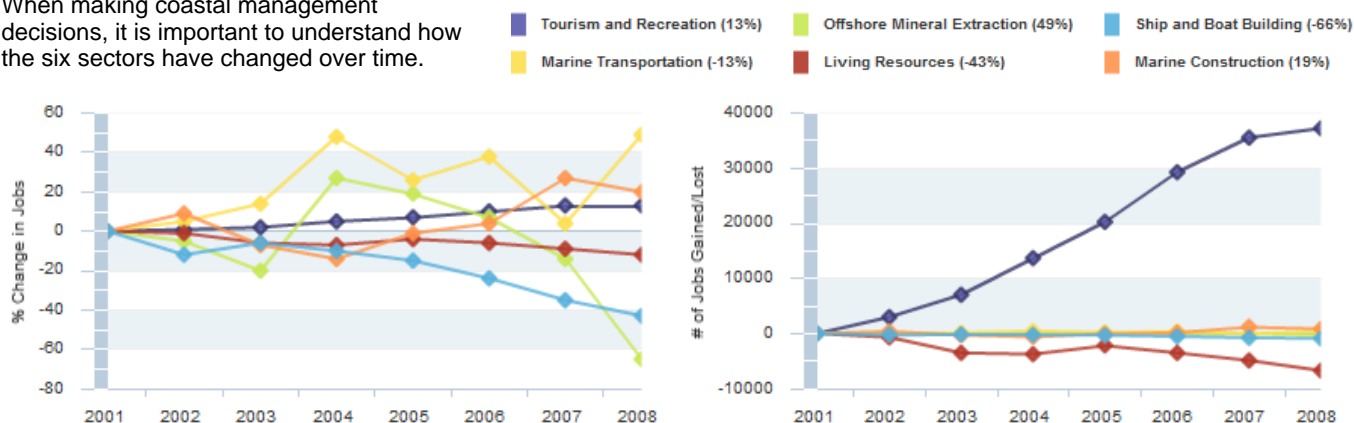


### Los Angeles County Percentages



### Job trends

When making coastal management decisions, it is important to understand how the six sectors have changed over time.



Some values may have been interpolated because of disclosure restrictions. For more information, see the online FAQ section for this snapshot.

### County and National Wages

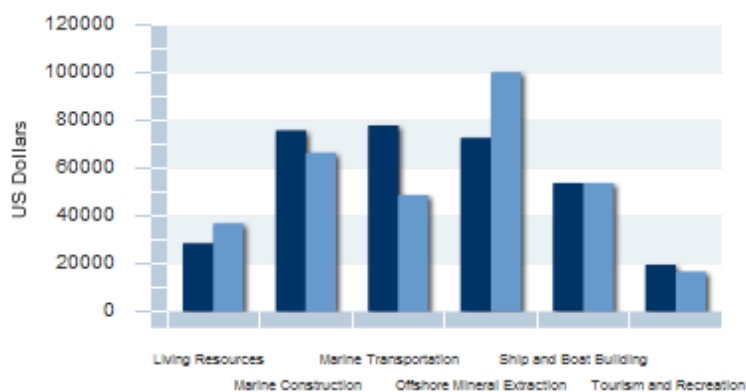
Higher local wages can be attractive to employees but a deterrent to new or expanding businesses. Managers should consider cost of living rates when making this comparison.

### Impact of Part-time Workers

Average tourism wages can be smaller due to the high percentage of part-time workers, but total tourism wages are often among the highest because of the large number of people employed.

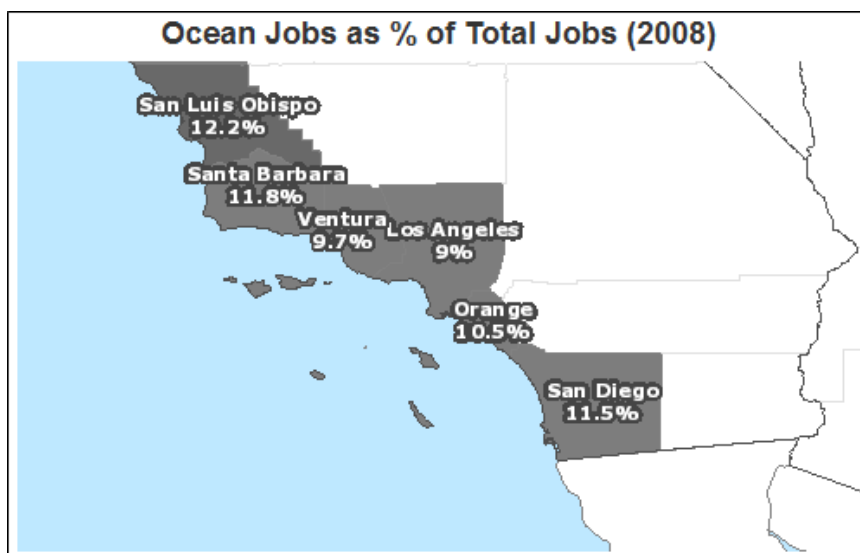
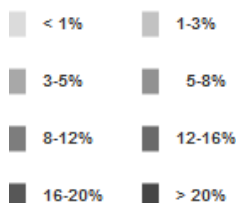
### Average Wage Per Employee (2008)

County National



## Understanding Neighbors Makes a Region Stronger

Knowing how neighboring communities depend on Ocean resources can be important when it comes to developing regional governance policies that benefit all. See the Coastal County Snapshots for nearby counties to better understand regional similarities and differences.



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## Digging Deeper

This snapshot provides a good starting point, but there are aspects of the ocean and Great Lakes economy that are not captured in this analysis. Information to help fill these gaps is listed below.

### Learning More: Key Economic Sectors

Economic statistics that focus on employment, like those used in this snapshot, miss the contributions of the self-employed. However, the self-employed are an important part of some sectors, like commercial fishing. NOAA compiles a wide range of data on commercial fishing that more fully illustrates this sector's economic importance ([www.st.nmfs.noaa.gov/st5/](http://www.st.nmfs.noaa.gov/st5/)).

### Learning More: Values outside the Market

Because many of the natural features that make the coast attractive can be enjoyed at no cost, their value is not evident in the 'market' data (jobs, wages, etc.). However, independent studies have estimated these 'nonmarket' values (aesthetics, health, safety, etc.).

- State of the Coast: [http://stateofthecoast.noaa.gov/coastal\\_economy/nonmarket.html](http://stateofthecoast.noaa.gov/coastal_economy/nonmarket.html)
- National Ocean Economics Program: [www.oceaneconomics.org/nonmarket/](http://www.oceaneconomics.org/nonmarket/)

### Using Information: Combining Data to Make Decisions

Combining information on market and nonmarket values to inform coastal management can be complicated. Below are a few resources that will assist in this task.

- General overview in laymen's terms: [www.ecosystemvaluation.org](http://www.ecosystemvaluation.org)
- Developing and using information on nonmarket values: [www.hd.gov/HDdotGov/detail.jsp?ContentID=299](http://www.hd.gov/HDdotGov/detail.jsp?ContentID=299)
- Assessing trade-offs: [www.elistore.org/Data/products/d19\\_03.pdf](http://www.elistore.org/Data/products/d19_03.pdf)

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## DATA SOURCE FOR SNAPSHOT

Economics: National Ocean Watch (ENOW). This data set provides ocean- and Great Lakes-related establishments, employment, and wages computed using the Bureau of Labor Statistics' Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, and gross domestic product (GDP) data derived from state GDP statistics from the Bureau of Economic Analysis. ([www.csc.noaa.gov/enow](http://www.csc.noaa.gov/enow)).

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## Additional Coastal Economic Resources

- HumanDimensions.gov: [www.hd.gov](http://www.hd.gov)
- Spatial Trends in Coastal Socioeconomics (STICS): <http://marineeconomics.noaa.gov/socioeconomics/>
- Introduction to Economics for Coastal Managers: [www.csc.noaa.gov/economics/](http://www.csc.noaa.gov/economics/)